



February 3, 2022

California Regional Water Quality Control Board
San Diego Region
2375 Northside Dr., Suite 100
San Diego, CA 92108

Street Address:
18700 Ward Street
Fountain Valley, California 92708

Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 20895
Fountain Valley, CA 92728-0895

(714) 963-3058
Fax: (714) 964-9389
www.mwdoc.com

Megan Yoo Schneider, P.E.
President

Bob McVicker, P.E., D.WRE
Vice President

Al Nederhood
Director

Larry D. Dick
Director

Karl W. Seckel, P.E.
Director

Sat Tamaribuchi
Director

Jeffrey M. Thomas
Director

Robert J. Hunter
General Manager

MEMBER AGENCIES

City of Brea
City of Buena Park
East Orange County Water District
El Toro Water District
Emerald Bay Service District
City of Fountain Valley
City of Garden Grove
Golden State Water Co.
City of Huntington Beach
Irvine Ranch Water District
Laguna Beach County Water District
City of La Habra
City of La Palma
Mesa Water District
Moulton Niguel Water District
City of Newport Beach
City of Orange
Orange County Water District
City of San Clemente
Santa Margarita Water District
City of Seal Beach
Serrano Water District
South Coast Water District
Trabuco Canyon Water District
City of Tustin
City of Westminster
Yorba Linda Water District

SUBJECT: Comment – Tentative Orders No. R9-2022-0005 and No. R9-2022-0006

Dear Regional Board Members:

On behalf of the Municipal Water District of Orange County (MWDOC), we strongly urge your support for approval of Tentative Order No. R9-2022-0005 and Tentative Order No. R9-2022-0006 to advance the Doheny Desalination Project through the Regional Water Quality Control Board's permitting process and towards construction of this essential water resilience project. As a wholesale water supplier and resource planning agency, MWDOC's efforts focus on sound planning and appropriate investments in water supply development, water use efficiency, and emergency preparedness.

Your consideration of action on the Tentative Orders related the advancement of the Doheny Desalination Project on March 9, 2022 is critical to protecting the quality of life and economy within the Orange County region that will benefit from this Project's high-quality water that is resilient to both climate change and drought.

The Doheny Desalination Project is sized to help meet Southern Orange County's water needs with up to 5 MGD of reliable, locally-controlled water supplies. This is a region wholly dependent on imported water, and with serious reliability and emergency supply constraints brought on by climate change impacts. This Project emphasizes our region's strong commitment to California's efforts to improve drought resiliency and water sustainability.

Moreover, this Project is also an example of "Desal done right" with its environmentally protective technology. The proposed slant wells will protect marine life by using subsurface water intake technology. In addition, the Project's commitment to green energy will yield up to 55 percent less energy usage through a recovery process within the plant operations.

You have it within your ability, as Members of the San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board, to help this region of the state have a more resilience supply of water by using the right technology and size to meet its needs in an appropriate manner. Therefore, we strongly urge your support – without unreasonable conditions – for Tentative Order No. R9-2022-0005 and Tentative Order No. R9-2022-0006 at your March 9, 2022 hearing.

Sincerely,

Robert J. Hunter
General Manager